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 AGRICULTURE  
LIBRARY

MAR 13 '78

 SECTION  
RECORDS

# AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES

## ZERO BASE BUDGETING AT THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY

By

David R. Hoyt, National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, Maryland

The topic of this paper is zero-base budgeting at the National Agricultural Library. Early in the winter of 1976 NAL management became aware of zero base budgeting when Jimmy Carter began making strides towards the Presidency. His comments on ZBB and promises to make it a part of the Federal budgeting process led NAL to an early investigation of its philosophy and techniques. Seen in retrospect ZBB implementation at NAL took place in three phases: a cost center phase, a "model" or draft phase and a final or "real" phase. I would like to review briefly each of these.

### PHASE I. Cost Centers

Since we had a fully operational management by objectives system in effect at NAL, and had already reviewed our goals and objectives in relation to our mission with the establishment of this system during the previous year, we took our objectives (or MBO's) as the logical starting place to begin developing cost centers. We thought that if we could determine the resource requirements for our objectives we could later consolidate the cost centers into separate decision packages. This proved to be a useful learning exercise for management but a timely mistake in terms of ZBB implementation. It seems we developed too many cost centers to be manageable and had too much detail to be useful. The level we had chosen to begin--that of specific individual objectives--was too low in the organization to do zero base budgeting; a mistake we later corrected.

Before moving on to the next step, let me give a few examples of cost centers and explain how they were determined. Each manager at NAL has certain carefully defined and clearly stated objectives to guide the operation of the unit. We call these MBO's. These objectives or MBO's support certain broad organizational goals and these goals in turn assist in accomplishing NAL's mission--to collect, preserve, and diffuse information about agriculture to the general public. We have over 50 specific objectives in our MBO system (such as answering a specified number of reference inquiries, filling document requests, binding volumes, cataloging materials, etc.) We divided these up into 23 functional categories and assigned related personnel and direct expenses to each. We then called these units cost centers. We assigned as many of the direct costs as we could, making arbitrary decisions where necessary, and finished with about 40% of the budget left over.

Our next problem was deciding what to do with the amount left over--all the indirect expenses such as elevator maintenance, gas, electricity, space charges, landscaping charges, telephones, photocopiers, etc. We couldn't ignore them, nor could we arbitrarily assign them to one cost center over another as they were shared expenses. What we did was establish a cut off point for direct personnel, at the section head level, and class all those personnel above the section head as indirect and those below as direct. We then took a ratio of the number of direct personnel assigned to each cost center vis-a-vis all cost centers and applied that ratio to the indirect expenses to determine the remaining allocation of costs (adjusting this formula slightly for space and heating expenses.) The

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result of our good efforts was the necessity for a chaos of calculations resulting in a wild set of figures no one held credible and everyone ignored.

The information gathered was distributed to the Executive staff and carefully examined but quietly set aside. The problem was both with the sheer quantity of detail we provided and the type of detail, which included simply too many figures pertaining to uncontrollable variables (i.e. indirect expenses). Managers had great difficulty in relating the expenses to their objectives and the objectives to the organizational units where the program decisions were made. The information was interesting but simply irrelevant to the real decision making process. We learned a valuable lesson but the lesson took up time. The problem was corrected, however, in Phase II of our implementation.

#### PHASE II. Draft Zero Base Budget

The second stage of our ZBB implementation consisted of consolidating our cost centers into meaningful decision units and describing them at several levels of effort (minimum, base, workload, and improved). For this process a hierarchy of activities and functions was developed based on NAL's present responsibilities and future intentions; and cost centers were grouped according to the nature of their specific objectives. This time only direct costs were employed--figures over which individual managers had some discretionary control. Indirect costs such as facilities maintenance and financial management were, therefore, set aside to be dealt with separately in individual packages. To simplify the process, forms used by the State of Georgia were borrowed, adapted and modified for our internal use. The final product was a draft zero base budget, a little shaky and a bit rough, but, nevertheless, a useful guide to preparing the real thing. The decision packages management thus prepared were to be distributed to lower level managers when the "real" ZBB was prepared, to serve as a guide or "model" for their use. At this stage we were still struggling with ZBB theory, trying to fit it to our needs and master its complicated mechanism. We thought a model would be a useful developmental tool. And it was. The final grouping of activities and functions for the model was as follows:



#### A. Identification of Agricultural Library Materials

1. Selection & Acquisition of materials for collection
2. Receiving and organizing serial issues for collection

#### B. Disseminating Records of Agricultural Library Materials

3. Cataloging materials acquired
4. Indexing Materials acquired--CAN
5. Indexing Materials acquired--AGRIS
6. Obtaining and disseminating records of relevant materials held elsewhere

#### C. Locating and Delivering Materials

7. Delivery from materials stored on-site
8. Delivery of materials by cooperative library arrangements
9. Delivery from On Demand Document Services
10. Rare Book-Service
11. Rare Book-Preservation

#### D. Providing Information From Library Resources

12. Providing information from library materials on-site
13. Providing information from NAL Data Bases
14. Providing information from other Data Bases

#### PHASE III. Final NAL ZBB

Actual preparation of NAL's Cost Centers and their consolidation and revision into Decision Packages had taken management five months. We were behind on our own time schedule but still ahead of the President's. As a national library and an agency of the Federal Government NAL's external budget request must take a form prescribed by the President's

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Office of Management and Budget. But, for internal purposes it could assume any shape management determined to be most informative. Therefore, having prepared a draft ZBB, and found out something about the difficulties we could expect in executing the real thing, we next wrote the guidelines and finalized the forms for use internally. This advance preparation had been made. These along with a cover letter were then distributed to the heads of each division with instructions and deadlines for their use. It is important to point out here that managers were free to accept or reject the drafts and determine for themselves at what level decision packages would be written for their units. Their independent judgment was essential if ZBB were really to be a ground-up process involving all lower level staff. Obviously, our drafts had some influence. But only as a directional device. Some of our packages were retained. But most were greatly modified.

With the model ZBB all basic library activities took on a strictly rational appearance. These broad activities served as the generic umbrellas under which all theoretical as well as real functions could be assigned. For example the activity of *Disseminating Records of Agricultural Library Materials* encompassed both the traditional "cataloging" function and the newer potential function of "obtaining and disseminating records of relevant materials held elsewhere" — a function which some denied belonging to the cataloging section yet still maintained as belonging to the library as a whole. The expansive scope of the activity statements allowed for these differences. With the real ZBB a more practical document took shape. Most packages submitted followed organizational lines and these in turn fell into major divisional categories, such as Library Services and Resource Development. Over fifty packages were submitted. Some with as many as four or five levels each and totaling up to several hundred pages. An outline of the internal submission was as follows:


- Building Maintenance
- Building Security
- Mail Service
- Shuttle Service
- Budget Formulation
- Budget Execution
- Management Analysis
- Personnel
- EEO/Training

- Consolidated Publications
- Archival Service
- Document Retrieval and Delivery
- Document Delivery to Field Locations
- Acquisitions
- Cataloging
- Indexing
- Reference, SDI
- Reference, Traditional
- Reference, Bibliographic Data Bases
- Assistance to Field Libraries
- Translation Services
- Systems Analysis

The packages submitted were then examined, carefully considered, ranked and consolidated as follows:

1. Facilities Management
2. Financial Management
3. Collection Maintenance
4. Collection Development
5. Reference Services
6. Automated Services
7. Cooperation with the National and International Agricultural Library Community.

In our model ZBB activity delineations and functional specifications reflected a theoretical rather than a practical approach. Identifying materials is a prior activity to disseminating records. And locating and delivering them depends on both. But, in the model, the existence of a centralized collection is neither presumed nor necessary. Logically, all that is required for information dissemination to take place is a knowledge that an item exists, and access to it. However, in our real ZBB the final ranking and preparation of decision packages was determined more by the exigencies of history than the priorities of logic: we have a fifteen story building and a two million item collection. And if we do nothing else we must maintain these, finance a staff to do so, and preserve access to the existing collection. These are minimum library functions, and zero base budgeting made them more clear.

A longer version of this article was presented as a speech at the 40th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science in Chicago, Illinois, September, 1977. 

# WORKSHOP ON COMPUTERS BEING USED BY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE PROGRAMS

By Linda White  
Center for Quantitative Studies  
College of Agriculture, University of Arizona  
Tucson, Arizona

The University of Kentucky recently sponsored a workshop on "Taking Computers to the Community: Prospects and Perspectives." Some 65 participants, most of whom represented eastern U.S. Cooperative Extension Service programs, met in Louisville, Kentucky, on January 12 and 13 to exchange information on computer usage by various Extension programs. Discussion and reports emphasized Extension-related or Extension-sponsored activities in telecommunication systems or data utilization. A variety of computer-based systems were discussed, including systems utilizing U.S. census data or other data collected by Federal and state agencies, computer mapping systems, and computer-based programs for Extension teaching and education.

Some of the major points made by one or more of the speakers were as follows:

1. The conflict of using centralized systems and files (involving use of standard remote terminals) versus using "smart" terminals and minicomputers was not resolved. These decisions need to be based on existing computer facilities, their accessibility, and telecommunication problems within a state.
2. Using computer bases or networks as a mechanism for information dissemination requires considerable time in working with the public and with Extension staff to overcome hesitations in using computers or in some cases distrust of the data.
3. Local users most often want data for their own particular location, and often are not interested in aggregated data for a state or large region. These local users also often need help in interpreting the data and in defining the problem clearly enough to determine what data will answer their question.

4. Most persons/firms who have developed software will not send out free copies of that software; exchanges of software are an option in some cases. Furthermore, adaption of software for your own local computer can be as time consuming and expensive as creating your own software.
5. Funds to create these networks and data systems have come mostly from either USDA Extension Service special needs funds or Title V. Even where outside grants have been obtained to develop terminal-based systems, purchases of terminals for county offices or state offices are paid for by state or county funds, not by the outside funding agency. States with large networks or data files need to plan on charging users in order to maintain their systems; free systems only last as long as the original developmental funds are in effect.

Several of the systems and programs that were described may be of interest to agricultural librarians:

Computerized Management Network (CMN) is a remote time-sharing interactive computer system for Extension education. It started in Virginia in 1969 with special funds from the USDA. CMN's purpose is to support Extension programs nationwide as a teaching method, information retrieval system, problem solving, and generator of examples. It is designed for operation by noncomputer trained persons. More than 100 users in over 30 states and Canada are CMN users and they are charged by connect time, system seconds used, and characters transmitted.

The users manuals describe in detail the 70 (approximate number) programs in CMN. Some of these are:

GROCR	a simulated grocery shopping experience to provide support for nutrition educational programs
RCALL	a food intake analysis program for a person of any age or sex for a period of one to seven days

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SSPEN	family budget program creates a monthly budget summary for a family unit, and compares this budget to the norm for an individual income bracket
PRSRV	food preservation cost analysis program; analysis between the cost of preserving foods at home and buying them retail
LOAN	current loan and/or refinancing analysis possibilities
AUTO	estimates cost of operating an automobile
CESTM	college savings estimation program aids the parents in determining how much to save each month for their children's college education
LVMKT	livestock feeding--marketing guidelines; generates break-even market or feeder prices for major livestock classes under specified conditions which may be altered by the user

Inquiries on CMN should be directed to Janet Faith, CMN, Cooperative Extension Service, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

TELEPLAN (Today's Electronic Planning) is a similar concept, only operating out of Michigan State University. Some 18 departments of Extension Service programs are users or have used TELEPLAN. Examples of programs are:

Labor Estimator	estimates total farm labor requirements given size and kinds of crop and livestock enterprises
Livestock Farm Planning Guide	determines the most profitable livestock, corn grain, and corn silage enterprise mix given expected prices, yields, production costs, machinery performance, field time and tillable land available


Protein for Consumers calculates the recommended and actual consumption of protein for one day, given a person's daily consumption of protein, age and sex. Results stated in terms of percentage of the U.S. Recommended Daily Allowances

Family Financial Planning calculates a monthly cash balance given family income by time period and cash outflow by month. Individual monthly details and change in net worth for the year are given.

Inquiries on TELEPLAN should be directed to Stephen Harsh, Associate Professor of Farm Management, Agricultural Economics, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.

Workshops on computers:

FACTS (Fast Agricultural Communication Terminal System) is being developed at Purdue University and unlike the other two networks will involve using "smart" terminals (which have the capabilities to handle their own programs and calculations). The "smart" terminals which each cost around \$12,000 are being purchased by a combination of state and county funds, not funds from the granting agency. Programs are still being created and written by Purdue faculty, but will cover community development, home economics, 4-H, and agricultural areas. This project is still in its developmental stage, but inquiries can be directed to Rodney Harrington, general director for FACTS, Agricultural Data Network, Smith Hall, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana 47907.

MAPS (Minnesota Analysis and Planning System) offers various data services to University persons, businesses, and community leaders. It maintains numerous files of socio-economic information (such as Census data) and provides users with different data as requested. Its staff can provide computerized mail services, computer-produced maps, and statistical and data analysis services. Inquiries should be directed to David Nelson, MAPS, 415 Coffey Hall, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. 

## TEXTILE INFORMATION USERS COUNCIL

### History

The Textile Information Users Council was established at a meeting May 19-21, 1969 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Since then, it has met at various locations in the eastern United States each spring and fall.

At the first TIUC meeting, the Council stated its objectives and described in detail the information services required by United States textile and related industries. At the second meeting, representatives of major suppliers of textile information services responded with discussions of their capabilities for providing the outlined services. Since that time, special committees have evaluated the quality of existing services and the need for new services and have fostered the improvement of available services and the development of appropriate new ones.

In the course of the previous fifteen meetings, many reports have been presented by committee chairmen and by 37 current or potential suppliers of textile information services. The results of TIUC efforts include the English translation of *Melliand Textilberichte International*, monthly subject index to *World Textile Abstracts*, and the Shirley Institute SOFA series of extended summaries of foreign-language articles in narrow subject fields. Improvements in coverage, timeliness; index quality, etc., of established secondary publications have also been effected.

### Objectives

To promote the development of comprehensive information services for use in both current awareness and retrospective searching functions by textile and related industries.

To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, needs, and experiences in the field of textile documentation.

To suggest to existing or potential information suppliers guidelines for services to meet the needs of users of information in the textile and related industries.

To act as an advisory council for evaluation of proposed or existing services.

To encourage participation in the activities of this Council by representatives of organizations using textile and related information.

### Membership

Full participating membership is open to those who are concerned with the use of textile information within their own organizations; that is representatives of fiber producers, textile manufacturers, dyestuff manufacturers, chemical suppliers, affiliated companies, college and university textile departments, and research institutes. The Council invites suppliers of information, who sell such services outside their own organizations, to certain sessions of Council, but reserves the right to exclude such suppliers from Council sessions when appropriate.

### Proceedings

Proceedings of previous meetings have been published and are available upon request from Mrs. Darlene L. Ball, a member of the Steering Committee.



### WATER STRETCHER

A new Drought Information Program located in Utah collects, publicizes and distributes abstracts of information dealing with emergency drought conditions. As part of this effort, the Water Resources Research Centers in states concerned with drought problems and the Office of Water Research and Technology, Department of the Interior, are supporting a newsletter, Western Water Stretcher. Published every three weeks, it highlights abstracts of special interest and lists the titles of all abstracts received. To be placed on the mailing list or to contribute information: *Drought Information Program, Utah Water Research Laboratory, UVC 82, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322, (801) 752-4100, x7992.*



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Ms. Moran:

As a member of the Textile Information Users Council (TIUC), I was interested in your cover article "Computer System on Textile Literature," December 1977. The TIUC was established in May, 1969 and has as one of its objectives to promote the development of comprehensive information services.

Your readers may be interested to know that Shirley Institute has signed an agreement with Lockheed to make *World Textile Abstracts* available on-line. The Spring meeting of the TIUC, April 19-21, 1978 in New Orleans, will include a Lockheed/WTI workshop on April 19th. Anyone interested in attending the workshop may contact Ms. Darlene Ball, P.O. Box 7793, Greensboro, NC 27407 (919) 379-2613 for registration information.

Another textile file not mentioned in the article is the TITUS (Textile Information Treatment Users Service) data base which was developed by the Institut Textile de France with cooperants in Germany, United Kingdom, Spain, Italy and Belgium. This file has been purchased by SDC who expects to have it up in March, 1978. The textile information community is excited at the prospect of having these textile data bases available with on-line access.

Sincerely,

Georgia H. Rodeffer  
Steering Committee  
School of Textiles Library  
North Carolina State University  
Box 5006  
Raleigh, NC 27607



## NEW SERIALS RECEIVED AT NAL



*Commodity Futures Trading Commission Commitments of traders in commodity futures (with market concentration ratios).* New York, Commodity Futures Trading Commission. no. 1, Jan 1977 -- HG6046.C62

*Inorganic perspectives in biology and medicines.* Amsterdam, Elsevier/North Holland Biomedical Press. v. 1, no. 1, May 1977 -- QH531.A115

*Journal of chemical research. Part M. Miniprint.* London, The Chemical Society. Issue 1, Jan 1977 -- QD40.A1J6

*Journal of chemical research. Part S. Synopses.* London, The Chemical Society, Issue 1, Jan 1977 -- QD40.A1J62

*Library acquisitions: practice and theory.* New York, Pergamon Press. v. 1, no. 1, Jan 1977 -- Z689.L5

*Optics letters.* New York, Optical Society of America. v. 1, no. 1, July 1977 -- QC350.06

*Pishchevaia promyshlennost. "Tekhnika".* no. 1, January - March 1977 -- TP368.K5

*Plant disease: an advanced treatise.* New York, Academic Press, 1977 -- SB601.P58

*Predi-briefs: Fertilizer & ag chemicals.* Cleveland, Predicasts, Inc. March 1977 -- S583.P7

*Predi-briefs: Textiles and fibers.* Cleveland, Predicasts, Inc. March 1977 -- TS1300.P7

*Protozoological abstracts.* Farnham Royal, Slough Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau, v. 1, no. 1, Jan 1977 -- QL366.P7

*Topics in enzyme and fermentation biotechnology.* Chichester, Ellis Horwood; New York, Halsted Press. no. 1, 1977 -- TP248.3.T6

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL PROGRAM

Assignments of individuals between governmental institutions on temporary assignment is an active program of the past few years. Charles L. Gilreath is presently on a 3-month detail from Texas A&M University working with NAL on planning for implementation of the networking plans of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977. The Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 authorizes temporary assignments between Federal agencies and State and local governments or education institutions for work of mutual concern and benefit. The U.S. Department of Agriculture entered into 164 such agreements during fiscal year 1977, and is one of the major Federal users of the IPA programs. Governmental employees may be mobile from the Federal to local governments or academic institutions as well as the reverse.

NAL will consider such assignments and welcomes letters of inquiry, a statement of proposal, or plan of work. All parties involved must reach agreement on release, financial arrangements, tasks to be performed, and a schedule. This takes some lead time and advanced planning at most institutions which are hard-pressed for human resources. Details of fewer than three months probably will not be considered.

Non-Federal personnel such as those at land-grant or cooperating institutions should make their interest known to:

Mr. William Lewis  
Room 201  
NAL Building  
Beltsville, MD 20705

Mr. Lewis may also be called for a brief summary of possibilities under the act (301 344-3843) or you may make your proposal directly to an officer of NAL with whom you wish to work. Details are contained in Chapter 334 of the *Federal Personnel Manual*.

## THE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM OF UPPER VOLTA AND "SCID"

By  
Arlene E. Luchsinger  
University of Georgia Libraries

The Southeastern Consortium for International Development (SCID) (see ALIN 3(6):21) is developing a program to establish and improve the agricultural program of Upper Volta. A design team composed of representatives from Fort Valley State College, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Auburn University, Tuskegee Institute, University of Kentucky and University of Georgia spent five weeks in Upper Volta returning to the United States on Dec. 11, 1977. Their report has been submitted to the Agency for International Development, and it is hoped that a contract with AID will be ready for signing in April.

The project is to extend over five years with a proposed budget of \$9.5 million. The project will include construction of facilities and program development. Representatives from the participating SCID institutions will go to Upper Volta, and individuals from Upper Volta will come to SCID schools, enrolling in programs to upgrade their educational skills. Dr. D. Snyder of the University of Georgia is the project director for program development, and Dr. Bennie Mayberry of Tuskegee Institute is the project leader for the training program.



### NEW NAL PUBLICATIONS

*Library Collection Policy.* December 1977. 44 p. Free.

*Women in American Agriculture, a select bibliography.*  
Library List 103. November 1977. 30 p. Free.

Send self addressed mailing label with request to:

Reference Division  
National Agricultural Library  
Beltsville, MD 20705



*The Ecological Effects of Coal Strip-Mining: A Bibliography with Abstracts.* Sally Ralston and others. (Fish and Wildlife Service. Office of Biological Services. FWS/OBS-77/09) Washington, Fish and Wildlife Service, US Department of the Interior. 1977. 416 p. Order from National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161. Document no. PB-265 316. Cost: \$13.25. (NAL call no. QH540.U56).

*Energy & Energy Related Materials: Index and Bibliography.* Final Report. Compiled by the Educational Materials Project, North Central Region Cooperative Extension Service. Ames, Iowa, January 1978. 50 p. Order from Educational Materials Project, North Central Region Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University, 111N Curtiss Hall, Ames, Iowa 50011. Free.

*Livestock and the Environment: A Bibliography with Abstracts, Volume IV.* Compiled by M.L. Rowe and Linda Merryman. (Environmental Protection Technology Series EPA-600/2-77-092). Ada, Oklahoma, Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Laboratory, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. May 1977. 568 p. Order from National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161. Document no. PB-270 942. Cost: \$16.50. (NAL call no. TD172.E57).

*Phytochrome: A Bibliography with Author, Biological Materials, Taxonomic, and Subject Indexes of Publications prior to 1975.* Compiled by David L. Correll, John L. Edwards, and W. Shropshire, Jr. Washington, Smithsonian Institution Press. 1977. 411 p. Order from Radiation Biology Laboratory, Smithsonian Institution, 12441 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD 20852. Free (NAL call no. Z5354. P48C6).

*Vertebrate Bioenergetics: An Annotated Bibliography.* Compiled by R.K. Schreiber and J.A. Watts. (International Biological Programme. Eastern Deciduous Forest Biome. EDFB/IBP-77/3). Oak Ridge, Oak Ridge National Laboratory. 1977. 167 p. Order from National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161. Cost: \$7.50. (NAL call no. Z7996.V4V5).

The bibliographies in this series are primarily computerized online or batch bibliographies emanating from searches performed by the NAL Reference Staff in response to customer requests.

Searches are selected for inclusion based on the currency of the topic, interest among NAL clientele, relative length (approximately 150 citations or more) and probable value to a larger audience. All titles in this series will be listed for four months. Revisions or updates will be renumbered and reannounced. Only one copy of a title will be sent; however, requestors may make copies. To request a copy of a Quick Bibliography send the title, series number, and a return addressed label to:

Reference Division  
National Agricultural Library  
Beltsville, MD 20705

NAL -- BIBL. -- 77-24. *Recent Family Cooking Publications from State Extension Services. 1968-76.* 46 citations from AGRICOLA. Spanish and English titles. Search by William H. Longenecker.

NAL -- BIBL. -- 77-25. *Dairy Industry of the U.S. and Canada, July 1968-April 1977.* 175 citations from AGRICOLA. English only. Search by Charles N. Beebe.

NAL -- BIBL. -- 77-26. *Herb Gardening, 1958-1977.* 81 citations from CAIN. English only. Search by Jayne MacLean.



### NEW AGRI TOPICS AVAILABLE

*Beekeeping Industry Information.* 2 p.  
*Soybeans As Food.* 2 p.  
*Bonsai.* 2 p.  
*Azaleas and Rhododendrons.* 2 p.

AGRI-TOPICS are free. Send self-addressed mailing label with request to: Reference Division  
National Agricultural Library  
Beltsville, MD 20705





*Aquaculture in the United States: Constraints and Opportunities.* Committee on Aquaculture, Board on Agriculture and Renewable Resources; Commission on Natural Resources, National Research Council (National Academy of Sciences, 1978; 135 p. publication pending).

*Environmental Impacts of Resource Management: Research and Development Needs (Analytical Studies for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).* Panel on Environmental Resource Management, Environmental Research Assessment Committee, Environmental Studies Board; Commission on Natural Resources, National Research Council (Environmental Studies Board, 1977; 75 p.; available from the board at 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418. Supply limited).

*Erosion Control in Energy Systems (NMAB-334).* Committee on Conservation of Materials in Energy Systems Through the Reduction of Erosion, National Materials Advisory Board; Commission on Sociotechnical Systems, National Research Council (National Materials Advisory Board, 1977; 243 p.; available from National Technical Information Service, Springfield, VA 22161, pending).

*Farm and Garden Index.* q. v. 1, no. 1, January - March 1978. Mankata, Minnesota Scholarly Press, Inc. \$55.00 per year. Order from publisher P.O. Box 224, Mankata, Minnesota 56001. Indexes popular gardening and agricultural magazines as well as many important research journals in agriculture and horticulture.

*Forestry Theses Accepted by Colleges and Universities in the United States:* July 1973 - June 1976. Compiled by Michael P. Kinch, Bibliographic Series No. 15, published December 1977, 142 p., \$3.00 per copy (paper). Copies can be ordered from: Oregon State University Press, P.O. Box 689, Corvallis, OR 97330.

*Librarians and Online Services.* Pauline Atherton and Roger W. Christian. White Plains, N.Y., Knowledge Industry Publications, 1977. 124 p. \$24.50, softbound (LC 77-25275; ISBN 0-914236-13-X). Order from publisher at 2 Corporate Park Drive, White Plains, N.Y. 10604. Tells how and why libraries are introducing computer searching into the libraries, how such services are financed, promoted and managed, and what problems they entail.

*Symposium on Impact of Infection on Nutritional Status of the Host.* Subcommittee on Interactions of Nutrition and Infections, Committee on International Nutrition Programs, Food and Nutrition Board; Division of Biological Sciences, Assembly of Life Sciences, National Research Council. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, August 1977 and September 1977; bound reprints available from the Special Publications Department, *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20014; \$12.00.

*Toxic Substances Control II.* Proceedings of the Toxic Substances Control Conference, December 8-9, 1977. Washington, D.C., Government Institutes, Inc., 1978, 264 p. \$25.00. Order from publisher at 4733 Bethesda Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. (301) 656-1090. Contains all papers presented at the Conference and represents the latest word on the public health, scientific, and regulatory aspects of this timely subject.

*Very Large Data Bases Proceedings.* Third International Conference on Very Large Data Bases, Tokyo, Japan, Oct. 6-8, 1977. 570 p. N.Y. IEEE, 1977. Add. copies available from: IEEE Computer Society, 5855 Naples Plaza, Suite 301, Long Beach, CA 90803; IEEE Service Center, 445 Holes Lane, Piscataway, N.J. 08854; ACM, 1133 Ave. of the Americas, N.Y., N.Y. 10036.



*April 9-14: AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF NUTRITION AND FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SOCIETIES FOR EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY, Atlantic City.*

*April 10-12: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOLOGICAL INFORMATION, Imperial College of Science and Technology and Geological Society of London, England. Write: Dederick C. Ward, University Libraries, University of Colorado at Boulder, Boulder, CO 80309.*

*April 10-14: FIFTH INTER-AMERICAN MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIANS AND DOCUMENTALISTS, San Jose, Costa Rica. Theme: Dynamics of the Education of Human Resources for Information Work. Contact: Secretariat of AIBDA, c/o IICA-CIDIA, Apartado 74, Turrialba, Costa Rica.*

*April 16-19: SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL INFORMATION CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION (NICE), Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C. Sponsor: Information Industry Association. Theme: Information Management: Key to Information Credibility. Contact: Information Industry Association, 4720 Montgomery Lane, Suite 904, Bethesda, MD 20014 (301-654-4150).*

*April 16-19: POTATO ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, Orlando.*

*April 25-27: EURIM 3, European Conference on the Contribution of Users to Planning and Policy Making for Information Systems and Networks. Kunstlerhaus, Lenbachplatz, Munich, Germany. Contact: Conference Organiser, Aslib, 3 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PL, England.*

*June 4-7: INSTITUTE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS, Dallas.*

*June 11-15: ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL SEED ANALYSTS, Lincoln.*

*June 11-14: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND TEACHERS OF AGRICULTURE, Winnipeg.*

*June 12-16: 9th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON YEAST GENETICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY, Rochester, New York. Sponsors: National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD; National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C.; Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. Contact: Dr. Christopher W. Lawrence, Dept. of Radiation Biology and Biophysics, University of Rochester Medical Center, 400 Elmwood Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14642.*

*June 12-14: 14th AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES SYMPOSIUM, San Francisco, California. Contact: Kenneth D. Schmidt, 111 Fulton Mall, Suite 306, Fresno, CA 93721.*

*June 18-21: AMERICAN MEAT SCIENCE ASSOCIATION, Storrs.*

*June 19-27: ELEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF SOIL SCIENCES, Edmonton.*

*June 25-30: PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR WORKING GROUP AND AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS, Blacksburg.*

*June 27-30: AMERICAN SOCIETY OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS, Logan.*

*July 9-13: AMERICAN DAIRY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION AND AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE, East Lansing.*

*July 15-20: AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE AND COUNCIL ON SOIL TESTING AND PLANT ANALYSIS, Boston.*

*(Continued on page 12)*

(Continued from page 11)

July 16-20: *AMERICAN COLLEGE OF VETERINARY TOXICOLOGISTS*, Dallas.

July 17-21: *POULTRY SCIENCE ASSOCIATION*, Clemson.

July 25-26: *COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY*.

July 30-August 2: *SOIL CONSERVATION SOCIETY OF AMERICA*, Denver.

August 6-9: *AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION*, Blacksburg.

August 6-9: *5th NORTH FOREST SOILS CONFERENCE*. Colorado State University, Fort Collins. Contact: Office of Conferences and Institutes, Rockwell Hall, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523.

August 7-10: *SOCIETY OF NEMATOLOGISTS*, Hot Springs, Arkansas.

August 7-10: *SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF REPRODUCTION*, Carbondale.

August 14-18: *FIRST INTERNATIONAL RANGELAND CONGRESS*, Denver.

August 20-25: *AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES*, Athens.

August 29-31: *AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION*, Chicago.

August 30-September 3: *RURAL SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY*, San Francisco.

September 4-8: *IAEA SYMPOSIUM ON SEED PROTEIN IMPROVEMENT IN CEREALS AND GRAIN LEGUMES*, Neuherberg, West Germany. Sponsor: International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna, Austria. Contact: John H. Kane, Special Assistant for Conferences, Office of Technical Information, MS A1-5216, ERDA, Washington, D.C. 20545.

September 10-16: *2nd INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ECOLOGY (INTERCOL)*, Jerusalem, Israel. Contact: Professor G.A. Knox, Zoology Department, University of Canterbury, Private Bag, Christchurch 1, New Zealand.

September 17-22: *AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CEREAL CHEMISTS AND SIXTH INTERNATIONAL CEREAL AND BREAD CONGRESS*, Winnipeg.

October 21-26: *SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS*, St. Louis.

October 25-27: *AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE*, Columbus.

October 29-November 2: *AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY*, Tucson.

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#### *AGRICULTURAL LIBRARIES INFORMATION NOTES*

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On January 24, 1978, four USDA agencies -- Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Cooperative State Research Service (CSRS), Extension Service (ES), and the National Agricultural Library (NAL) -- merged to become a new organization, the Science and Education Administration (SEA), U.S. Department of Agriculture.

This publication was prepared by the Science and Education Administration's Technical Information Systems staff, which was formerly the National Agricultural Library.



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JUNE 12-16, 1978

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The course will be held June 12-16, 1978 at the Illini Union, University of Illinois, at Champaign-Urbana. Registrants will be responsible for their lodging, meals and transportation, but all equipment, manuals and instructions will be provided. A block of sleeping rooms has been set aside at the Illini Union, University of Illinois, at Champaign-Urbana. In making reservations indicate attendance at the AGRICOLA ONLINE Course. Persons wishing to attend should submit their names on letterhead stationery by May 12, to:

Automated Retrieval Services, TIS  
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